Release No.: 03-34
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October 21, 2003

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ANDREWS/STEENS DRAFT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 27-30, 2003

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District would like to remind the public of four meetings scheduled for next week to discuss the Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) for the Andrews Management Unit/Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (Andrews/Steens). Meeting dates and locations are:

- Monday, October 27: Portland, Oregon, at the Downtown Marriot (520 SW Broadway)
- Tuesday, October 28: Bend, Oregon, at the Riverhouse Resort (3075 N Hwy 97)
- Wednesday, October 29: Burns, Oregon, at the Harney County Senior Center (17 S Alder Avenue)
- Thursday, October 30: Frenchglen, Oregon, at the Frenchglen School (Hwy 205)

Each 'open-house' style meeting will last from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and will allow participants to discuss issues with BLM resource specialists. During the meetings, formal comments can be submitted in writing or taken verbatim from a court recorder. Written comments outside the meetings may be submitted to the Burns District BLM or to the Steens Mountain Web site at the addresses listed below. The closing date for all comments on the RMP is January 5, 2004.

The Final Andrews/Steens RMP/EIS is scheduled for completion October 2004.

For more information on the Andrews/Steens RMP/EIS or the upcoming public meetings, please contact the Burns District Office at 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon, call (541) 573-4400, or visit the Steens Mountain Web site at <a href="https://www.or.blm.gov/Steens">www.or.blm.gov/Steens</a>.